



National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

# Inside Wallops

Volume XX-02

Number: 08

March 11, 2002

## ***NASA Administrator Selects New Biological and Physical Research Associate Administrator***

Mary E. Kicza has been named Associate Administrator for Biological and Physical Research at NASA Headquarters, effective March 11.

Kicza was the Associate Center Director at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

At Goddard, she was the senior manager responsible for coordinating and integrating all Goddard space science, Earth science, and enabling technology programs and activities.

In making the selection, NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe praised Kicza's extensive management experience.

"For two decades, Mary has managed an extremely diverse scientific community. She has the leadership skills and the management expertise to bring NASA's fields of physics, chemistry and biology together into a truly dynamic and successful program."

As Associate Administrator, Kicza will manage an office dedicated to conducting basic and applied research to support human exploration of space, and to taking advantage of the space environment as a laboratory for scientific, technological and commercial research.

She began her NASA career in 1982 at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, where she was lead systems engineer for the Centaur Engineering Support Group and test coordinator for computer systems supporting the program's tests and launches.

From 1994 to 1996, she was the Assistant Associate Administrator for Technology for the Office of Space Science at NASA Headquarters in Washington. From 1992 to 1994, she held two positions at the same time, serving as Deputy Division Director for the Office of Space Science's Solar System Exploration Division and working as Program Manager for the newly formed Discovery Program, which included the highly successful Mars Pathfinder mission.

Prior to her recent assignment at Goddard, Kicza was Associate Center Director for Space Science Programs, where she was the senior person responsible for management of all of the center's space science programs. While in the position, she also served

as co-chair of the team performing independent annual reviews of the International Space Station and its research programs.

Kicza is the recipient of NASA's Exceptional Performance Award and in 1998 was conferred the rank of Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service for sustained superior accomplishment in the management of programs of the United States government. She has a bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from California State University, Sacramento, and a master's degree in Business Administration from the Florida Institute of Technology.

## ***Swap Out Hubble Cameras***



During the fourth spacewalk of STS-109 mission, Astronauts Jim Newman and Mike Massimino (above) installed the new Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS) in the Hubble Space Telescope. This marked perhaps the most significant scientific upgrade of Hubble's life.

## ***Keegan Resigns as NASA's Chief Engineer***

W. Brian Keegan has announced his resignation as NASA's Chief Engineer, effective April 3, ending a 36-year career with the agency.

As Chief Engineer, a position he's held since February 2000, Keegan is responsible for overall review of the technical readiness and execution of all agency programs. The Chief Engineer also provides NASA-wide guidance on engineering policies, standards and practices.

Keegan first joined NASA in 1966 as a structural engineer at Goddard Space Flight Center. In 1986, he was selected as the Deputy Director of Flight Assurance at Goddard. In 1994, Keegan was appointed the deputy Director of Engineering. He served as Goddard's Director of Applied Engineering and Technology from 1997 until his appointment as Chief Engineer in 2000.

## ***Wallops Shorts.....***

### ***Sounding Rocket Launches***

A NASA Improved Orion sounding rocket was successfully launched from Poker Flat Research Range, Alaska, on March 7. The experiment carried dust detectors to investigate mesospheric dust layers near an altitude of 53 miles (90 km).

Dr. Kristina Lynch, University of New Hampshire was the principal investigator. The payload will not be recovered.

### ***On the Road***

Doug Young, NASA Aircraft Office; Karon Eichelberger, QSS; and Zachary Barrett, NCI Information Systems, Inc. participated in the Accomack County Career Day held on March 7 at Arcadia High School. Approximately 200 students from Nandua High School, Tangier Combined School and Arcadia attended.

### ***Honor Awards***

Congratulations to the following Wallops personnel who received awards during the Annual Honor Awards Ceremony held at Goddard Space Flight Center on March 8.

### **Best of Best**

#### ***Institutional Support-Infrastructure***

- Cable Plant Documentation Team
- SANAD Support Technologies, Inc., Library Support Group

#### ***Institutional Support-Programmatic***

- Flight Modem Team

### **GSFC Annual Honor Awards**

#### ***National Resource***

- Mobile Launch Team

### ***Excellence in Outreach***

- Geoff Bland, NASA Observational Science Branch

### ***Center of Excellence***

- Logistics Inventory Group
- Top Hat Project Team

### ***Contractor of Excellence***

- EG&G Environmental Support Team

### ***Outstanding Management 1<sup>st</sup> Level and Group Team Leader***

- Bill Bott, NASA Wallops Environmental Lead



***Happy  
St. Patrick's Day***



Mild Winter Weather Continues

by Rob Steiner, Meteorologist

Keeping in step with the mild weather we experienced during January, February came in with much the same.

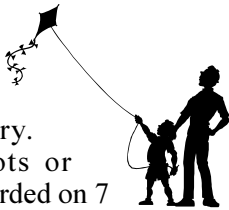
A daily record high was set on February 1 with a reading of 79 degrees. This also tied the all time high temperature for the month that was set on February 27, 1997. Record highs also were recorded on February 10 (64 degrees) and on February 21 (69 degrees).

No record low temperatures were set or tied. With 24 days of above average high temperatures and 21 nights with above average low temperatures, the average monthly temperature was 43.7 degrees, which was 6.5 degrees above average.

February also was another very dry month with only 0.75 inches of measurable precipitation being recorded. This was 2.59 inches below normal for the month.

Measurable precipitation fell on six days in February and nine days is the norm. We recorded 0.3 inches of snowfall on February 27, which is 3 inches less than is normal for the month. Usually, we have two days of measurable snowfall in February.

Wind also was a noticeable weather factor during February. Gusts to 25 knots or greater were recorded on 7 days, and the greatest being 39 knots on February 11.



Looking forward to April, we can expect daily high temperatures in the upper 50's early in the month, increasing to the mid 60's by the end of the month.

The record high for April is 93 degrees set on April 26, 1990. We can reasonably expect a few days with temperatures in the 70's and 80's.

Overnight lows start out at around 40 degrees and warm to 48 degrees by the end of the month. The all time low for April is 24 degrees reached on April 1, 1969. Freezing temperatures are not out of the question towards the latter part of the month.

April is usually the driest month of the year, seeing on average 10 days with measurable precipitation for an average of 2.68 inches total.

With the mild weather, we should be planning for spring, planting gardens and such. Beat the rush and get your summer toys ready to use.

Remember to keep the light jackets handy as Jack Frost usually makes his last visit in April.



Photos by Zachary Barrett

Doug Young, NASA Aircraft Office, (top) and Karon Eichelberger, QSS, (bottom) talk to students at the Accomack County Career Day held March 7.



"The Color Line Revisited: Is Racism Dead?"

In observance of National Black History Month, the Wallops Black History Club will hold its Annual Dinner/Entertainment evening March 16 from 5 p.m. to midnight at the Elks Lodge on Business Route 13, Tasley, Va.

This year's theme is "The Color Line Revisited: Is Racism Dead?" The guest speaker will be Rev. Charles Mapp, Sr. and entertainment will be gospel soloists, musical interpretation and a skit. There also will be an academic achievement award ceremony and a dance.

Tickets are available by calling Rebecca Beach on x1559.

Optical Van Visits Wallops

The Chesapeake Optical Van will be visiting NASA Wallops Flight Facility on Thursday, March 28, to dispense prescription safety eyeglasses.

The van will be in the parking lot near behind the Cafeteria, Building E-2, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Interested parties need to obtain a "Request for Prescription Safety Eyeglass Form" from the Health Unit. The completed form and an up-to-date eyeglasses prescription are required for your order to be processed. Call the Health Unit at x1266 with any questions.

Exchange News

The following tickets can be purchased at the Wallops Exchange, Building E-2, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Busch Gardens

Early Bird Tickets - March 23 to May 31

	Gate Price	WEMA Price
Adult	42.99	28.00
Child	35.99	24.00

Regular Season Tickets

Adult	42.99	35.00
Child	35.99	29.50

3 day/2 park	64.99	61.00
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2 day/2 park	54.99	54.00
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Water Country

Adult	31.99	26.00
Child	24.99	20.50

Kings Dominion

Adult	39.99	32.00
Child	27.99	26.00

Shore Bird's Vouchers

Adult/Child	6.00	4.00
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\*\*Tax will be added to tickets purchased at the gate also.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees.

Editor  
Printing

Betty Flowers  
Printing Management Office

<http://www.wff.nasa.gov>